

Four political objectives

- * Stability of the State, community peace and tranquillity, prevalence of law and order
- * National reconsolidation
- * Emergence of a new enduring State Constitution
- * Building of a new modern developed nation in accord with the new State Constitution

Four economic objectives

- * Development of agriculture as the base and all-round development of other sectors of the economy as well
- * Proper evolution of the market-oriented economic system
- * Development of the economy inviting participation in terms of technical know-how and investments from sources inside the country and abroad
- * The initiative to shape the national economy must be kept in the hands of the State and the national peoples

Four social objectives

- * Uplift of the morale and morality of the entire nation
- * Uplift of national prestige and integrity and preservation and safeguarding of cultural heritage and national character
- * Uplift of dynamism of patriotic spirit
- * Uplift of health, fitness and education standards of the entire nation

Leading Committee for Organizing 15th Performing Arts Competitions holds second coord meeting



Commander Maj-Gen Wai Lwin speaking at 2nd coord meeting of Leading Committee for Organizing the 15th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions.—MNA

NAY PYI TAW, 12 Sept — The Leading Committee for Organizing the 15th Myanmar Traditional Cultural Performing Arts Competitions held the second co-ordination meeting at the Ministry of Culture, here, this afternoon.

Speaking on the occasion, Chairman of the Leading Committee Commander of Nay Pyi Taw Command Maj-Gen Wai Lwin said that the 15th Performing Arts Competitions are getting near. Hence, today's meeting was to coordinate tasks for organizing the competitions between the Organizing Committee and subcommittees. He said that he was wit-

nessing active preparations of all the committees and subcommittees for holding the competitions with added momentum. Likewise, contestants are also taking part in the state/division level competitions. Therefore, the committee, the subcommittees and officials are to strive for the convenience of the contestants and for successfully organizing the competitions on a grander scale.

Vice-Chairman of the Leading Committee Minister for Culture Maj-Gen Khin Aung Myint said that the 15th Performing Arts Competitions would be organized based on the Union Spirit and patriotic spirit. He

stressed the need for subcommittees to make preparations for the competitions.

Members of the various subcommittees reported on their respective sectors. Chairmen of the Panel of Judges for the working groups of respective categories submitted reports on their preparations.

Engineer in-charge U Soe Win of ACE Construction Co presented a report on construction of the extended building at the Gymnasium and Assembly Hall of University of Agriculture.

After attending to the needs, the commander gave the concluding remarks.—MNA

Officials urged to strive for ensuring the convenience of the contestants and for successfully organizing the competitions on a grander scale.

INSIDE

Shan State (South) where 1000 flowers blossom IV: Jivitadana Sangha Hospital (Taunggyi)

Accompanied by Sayadaw Navingadhura Ashin Adiccavamsa (the monk who is sponsoring a programme to build a religious buildings for 100 yogi to practise vipassana in Mongpon), I visited the hospital. Hence, I will continue to write about my interviews with monks and nuns receiving medical treatment at the hospital and doctors, efforts of donors and the body administering the functions of the hospital and the merits gained for setting up a medical trust fund.

PAGE 7

YADANASI SAYADAW (LOILEM)

Emergence of the State Constitution is the duty of all citizens of Myanmar Naing-Ngan.

PERSPECTIVES

Thursday, 13 September, 2007

Public participation in successful implementation of literacy for all programmes

Today there are over 774 million illiterates in the world and two-thirds of them are women. Over 72 million school-going age children are unable to go to school. This shows that literacy movements for all are to be implemented.

In Myanmar adult literacy campaign has been launched. This year the literacy rate nationwide has risen up to 94 per cent. In 2007-2008 academic year school enrolment rate at primary level has increased up to 98 per cent due to the government's endeavours for every school-going age child to complete basic education.

With the high literacy rate reading power must be upgraded. Books and other publications are to be provided for the people in the literate atmosphere. Community learning centres and self-reliance libraries have been opened.

Nowadays literacy of the people and their knowledge on health and social foundations are becoming higher and higher. Economic progress and increase of income of the families have been made.

Children brought up by literate mothers can gain more opportunities. Literacy is useful not only for individuals but for the community. We urged the people to provide necessary assistance for successful implementation of literacy for all programmes and continuing education programmes.



Ko Myo Nyunt and Ma Than Than Win of Khabaung Street, Ward-10 in Hline Township recently donated K 100,000 to Hninzigon Home for the Aged through Secretary of Executive Committee Maj Aung Than (Retd).— H

People's Desire

- * Oppose those relying on external elements, acting as stooges, holding negative views
- * Oppose those trying to jeopardize stability of the State and progress of the nation
- * Oppose foreign nations interfering in internal affairs of the State
- * Crush all internal and external destructive elements as the common enemy

Development tasks supervised in Sagaing Division

YANGON, 12 Sept — Deputy Minister for Progress of Border Areas and National Races and Development Affairs Col Tin Ngwe held a meeting with service personnel of Monywa Township Development Affairs Committee at the meeting hall of the committee in Monywa on 5 September.

At the meeting, executive officer U Mya Soe and senior engineer U Soe Soe Oo briefed the deputy minister on rural and urban development tasks.

Next, the deputy minister inspected water supply tasks, the nursery of the committee, the vehicle workshop, tarred roads and upgrading of car park and tube-well in Monywa Township.—MNA



Pantapwinttaung Presiding Sayadaw accepts 600 school uniforms worth K 5 million and 90 bags of rice worth K 1,350,000 donated by Malaysian Ambassador to Myanmar Mr Dato Shaharuddin bin Md Som and wellwishers.— NLM

Media meeting on preparation for Taekwondo held

Vice - President of Myanmar Taekwondo Federation Dr Myat Hlaing meets the Press.

NLM

YANGON, 12 Sept — Myanmar Taekwondo Federation launched a media meeting on preparations for Taekwondo game to achieve success in the upcoming XXIV SEA Games and programme to participate in the international tournaments at the training hall of Aung San Stadium this afternoon.

Present at the media meeting were Vice-President Dr Myat Hlaing of MTF, General Secretary U Tin Win and executives, coaches, players and media persons. First, Vice-President Dr Myat Hlaing of MTF made a speech on the occasion. Next, General Secretary U Tin Win explained about preparations and training and so did Korean coach Mr Yu Ung Cho and U Kyaw Than Oo (Myanmar).

As part of preparations for Taekwondo game to achieve success in the upcoming XXIV SEA Games, Myanmar Taekwondo Team will do joint training at Incheon University in Korea from 15 September to 6 November. Moreover, Myanmar will take part in Korean Open Taekwondo Tournament to be held from 1 to 6 November. Myanmar Taekwondo Team, which is going to undergo training in Korea, comprises U Mya Han as manager, Korean Mr Yu Ung Cho, U Kyaw Than Oo and Daw Wah Wah Tun as coaches, Thura Kyi, Sa Aye Chan Nyein, Soe Moe Lwin, Aung Nyein Chan, Zeya Lin, Wunna Ko Ko, Win Tun Lin, Zar Ni Tun, Maung Maung Oo as men players and Thiri Tint Lwin, Sandar Win, Aye Aye Khine, Soe Soe Myar, May Sandar Kyaw Win, Hsan Ngu Wah Sue and Ywet Wah Tun as women players.

NLM

Press conference on ASEAN Awards of Excellence in Arts and Crafts

YANGON, 11 Sept — A press conference on ASEAN Awards of Excellence in Arts and Crafts, which is a project of ASEAN COCI to be held in Myanmar, took place at National Museum on Pyay Road this morning.

First, Chairman of ASEAN COCI Myanmar Director-General of Department of Archaeology, National Museum and Library U Sann Win and Secretary of ASEAN COCI Myanmar Pro-rector Daw Nandar Hmum explained about the awarding ceremony of excellence in arts and crafts.

Next, resident representative of ASEAN Handicraft Promotion and Development Association Daw Claudia Saw Lwin made clarification on the role of APHADA that are included in the project and officials concerned replied to the queries raised by those present. Cash reward US\$ 1,000 will be awarded to the winners.

The applicants may obtain application forms free of charge at National Museum, Cottage Industries Department of the Ministry of Cooperatives and APHADA. — MNA

Seven members say NLD's activities deplorable

Resign from Sagaing and Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana Township NLDs

YANGON, 12, Sept—Six members of Sagaing Township National League for Democracy in Sagaing Division—U Khwe Nyo, U Tin Nyunt, U Aung Than, U Kyaw Nyunt, U Kaung Kyi and U Khin Maung of Yaykha Village, and member of Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana Township NLD U Soe Thura on 3 September submitted their resignation letters of their own accord to the NLD (HQ) and local administrative bodies.

The letters they sent to Sagaing Township and Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana Township Multi-party Democracy General Election Commissions said that the activities of the NLD are absolutely unacceptable to them, and they no longer want to be members of the party, adding, they leave the party of their own volition.—MNA

INTERNATIONAL NEWS

Texas oilman accused of paying Iraq kickbacks

NEW YORK, 11 Sept—Prosecutors promised on Monday to prove that Texas oilman Oscar Wyatt paid millions of dollars in kickbacks to Saddam Hussein's government, earning him a privileged position in Iraq.

Assistant US Attorney Stephen Miller told jurors at opening arguments of Wyatt's trial that prosecutors would present photos, audio tapes, bank records, UN records and Iraqi Government records proving Wyatt paid kickbacks to win Iraqi oil contracts.

"Oscar Wyatt's years of assistance to the Hussein regime earned him a

privileged status in Iraq," Miller said.

Wyatt, an 83-year-old self-made oil tycoon, faces five counts in Manhattan federal court including engaging in prohibited financial transactions with Iraq, deals alleged to have violated the UN oil-for-food programme designed to provide humanitarian assistance to Iraq while it was under international sanctions.

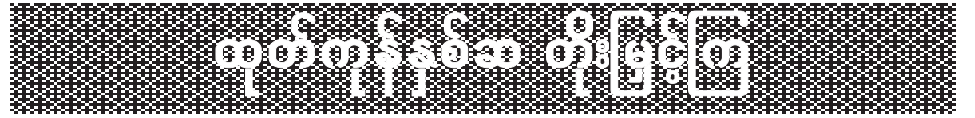
The oilman, known for his unfettered opinions and flamboyant style, faces a maximum of 74 years in prison if convicted of all charges. After getting his start selling oil drill bits out of

the trunk of his car, he founded the Coastal Corp that was sold to El Paso Corporation for 17 billion US dollars in stock in 2000 and 2001.

Defence lawyer Gerald Shargel argued the federal case against Wyatt was "entwined" with his opposition to both US-led wars against Iraq.

Wyatt flew to Iraq with former Texas Governor John Connally in December 1990 in a bid to free US citizens held in Baghdad just before the US operation to dislodge Iraqi forces that had invaded Kuwait earlier that year.

MNA/Reuters



Fuji Heavy Industries Ltd's cleaning robot RFS1 is pictured at an office building in Tokyo recently. It looks like a washing machine on wheels, but the bulky contraption vacuuming the hallways of a Tokyo high-rise is a robot.

INTERNET

US soldier dies from wounds in northern Iraq

BAGHDAD, 12 Sept—An American soldier died from wounds sustained in a rocket attack in the

northern Iraqi province of Kirkuk on Sunday, the US military said on Monday.

Another soldier was

wounded in the attack which targeted the US soldiers who were on patrol in the area, the military said in a statement, adding that the wounded was transported to a military medical facility for treatment.

Earlier, the military said that one of its soldiers was killed and two others were wounded in the day during combat operations in western Baghdad.

An Iraqi interpreter was also wounded in the attack, it added.

The latest deaths bring the number of US soldiers who have been killed in Iraq to more than 3,760 since the outbreak of the Iraqi war in 2003, according to media count based on Pentagon figures.

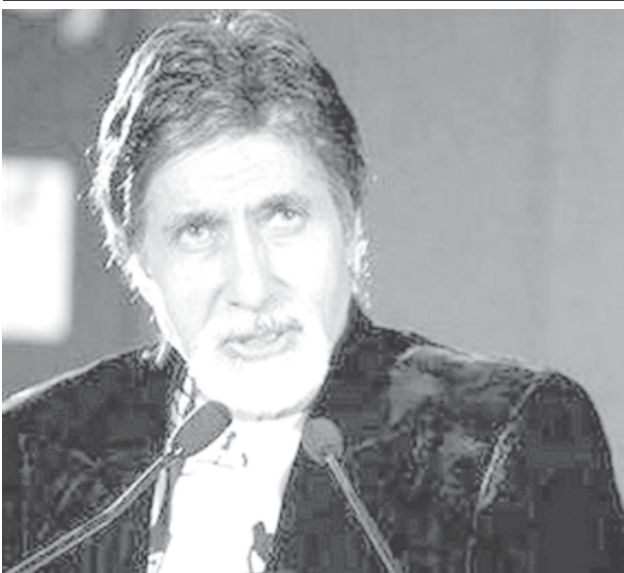
MNA/Xinhua

Mexican dynamite-truck's death toll rises to 40

MEXICO CITY, 11 Sept—A truck loaded with 25 tons of dynamite crashed late Sunday against a pick-up and blew up at northern Mexican state of Coahuila highway killing some 40 people and injuring 100, police reported on Monday.

The dynamite-loaded truck turned over due to the crash and started burning and immediately exploded causing a two-metre deep and 10-metre wide crater.

MNA/Xinhua



Bollywood actor Amitabh Bachchan speaks during a promotional event for his film "Ram Gopal Verma Ki Aag" in Mumbai, on 14 Aug, 2007. Working in English and simply growing old are offering new opportunities to Indian movie icon Bachchan whose first English-language film, "The Last Lear," premiered at the Toronto Film Festival this week.—INTERNET



A woman sits in the back of a truck during a heavy rain storm in Hanoi, Vietnam, on 11 Sept, 2007. Flash flooding triggered by torrential rain killed at least two people and swept five others away in northern Vietnam, a government official said on Tuesday.—INTERNET

Africa gets biotech boost against killer diseases

CAPE TOWN, 12 Sept—South African President Thabo Mbeki opened an international biotechnology centre on Monday that aims to develop vaccines for HIV/AIDS and other diseases that kill thousands of Africans daily. The Cape Town-based branch of the International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology (ICGEB)

will focus on infectious diseases including malaria and tuberculosis.

The facility is the third ICGEB centre that targets research at the needs of developing countries. The others are in Italy and India.

Mbeki said biotechnology could play a key role as Africa buckled under the combined pressures of infectious diseases, food

insecurity and decades-long underdevelopment.

"This branch of knowledge is making, and will make, a critical contribution in terms of addressing the contemporary and future needs in such areas as health, food and energy security," he said at a ceremony at the University of Cape Town.

By focusing on the molecular level of dis-

eases, researchers hope to enhance prognosis and eventually develop vaccines for the three main infectious diseases affecting the continent.

ICGEB services 74 countries. South Africa has committed some 4 million euros (5.5 million US dollars) to the start-up costs of the Cape Town facility over four years.

MNA/Reuters



Director Jiang Wen (L 1) and cast members attend the premiere of his movie “The Sun Rises as Usual” in Beijing, capital of China, on 11 Sept, 2007.
XINHUA

Reagan’s wife, actress Jane Wyman, dies

LOS ANGELES, 11 Sept— Jane Wyman, the Oscar-winning Hollywood actress who was Ronald Reagan’s first wife and went on to star on the popular 1980s television drama “Falcon Crest”, died on Monday at age 93.

Wyman, who married fellow actor and future US president Reagan in 1940, but divorced him in 1948, died at her home in Rancho Mirage, California, said William Morton, a spokesman for Forest Lawn Memorial Park and Mortuary.

Beginning her career as a radio singer, the Missouri-born Wyman made her first film appearance as a chorus dancer in the 1935 musical “King of Burlesque” and signed with Warner Bros studio the following year. Her film acting debut came with a bit part in “Gold Diggers of 1937”.

She won the Oscar as best actress for her 1948 role — played at the age of 34 — as a teenage deaf-mute raped in “Johnny Belinda”, a highly charged “woman’s” movie directed by Jean Negulesco. — MNA/Reuters

Vietnam to ban liquids in air hand luggage

HANOI, 11 Sept— Vietnam plans to disallow passengers on domestic flights to carry liquids in their hand luggage from mid-October in order to ensure flight security, according to local newspaper *Transport* on Monday.

Different kinds of liquids, including alcohol, bottled water and perfume will be not allowed to be present in hand luggage. They, excluding baby food and medicines needed during the flight, should be put into cabin baggage.

Each passenger should place baby food and medicines in a transparent plastic bag of which each container must not exceed 100 millilitres. All other

containers of a larger capacity must be placed in checked baggage.

Vietnam has already disallowed passengers on the international flights to carry liquids in their hand luggage, the newspaper

said. Vietnam’s air industry served nearly five million domestic and foreign passengers in the first seven months of this year, posting a year-on-year rise of 16.7 per cent. — MNA/Xinhua

Report says plastic products may contain toxic chemicals

LOS ANGELES, 11 Sept — Scientists have hypothesized that chemicals in certain plastics may be linked to such conditions as asthma and even obesity, according to a new report.

Recent widely publicized studies have shown that plastics are not only ubiquitous in the environment, but are found in the bodies of nearly all Americans too, said the report published on Sunday by the *Los Angeles Times* on its website.

Most of the research, and the strongest evidence, points to effects that certain plastics chemicals appear to exert on the reproductive system, said the report.

Although findings are still considered preliminary, reports are enough to make consumers question the safety of plastics.

“Unfortunately,” said Dr Philip Landrigan, a pediatrician and chairman of the department of community and preventive medicine at the Mount Sinai School of Medicine in New York, “we’re in the terrible position of having to say that we mostly don’t know.” But while phthalates and other chemicals used in plastics have been shown to be toxic to animals, in humans, the data are still inconclusive, experts said. — MNA/Xinhua



A woman stands at the entrance of her house, near a damaged vehicle, after a raid by US soldiers in Baghdad’s Sadr City on 11 Sept, 2007.—INTERNET

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Trinidad natural gas Co boss escapes kidnappers

PORT OF SPAIN, 11 Sept — The chairman of Trinidad’s main natural gas company, Atlantic LNG, managed to escape from a group of kidnappers who snatched him from his beach house over the weekend, the company said on Monday.

Gordon Deane, a Trinidadian businessman,

sustained a dislocated shoulder and injuries to the back of his neck when he threw himself out of a moving vehicle, ran through a forest and jumped down a waterfall to escape his kidnappers.

“Gordon Deane, chairman of Atlantic LNG Company of Trinidad and Tobago, said that he is happy and grateful to be

alive. He has returned to his family and is in good spirits,” Atlantic LNG said in a statement.

The company supplies the United States with over 65 per cent of its liquefied natural gas, or LNG, a supercooled form of natural gas that allows it to be more easily carried in bulk carriers.

MAN/Reuters



Actress and comedian Kathy Griffin celebrates her Emmy win in “Outstanding Reality Programme” for “My Life on the D-List” during the Primetime Creative Arts Emmy Awards in Los Angeles on 8 Sept, 2007.—INTERNET

41 die of encephalitis in eastern Nepal

KATHMANDU, 11 Sept— Encephalitis has claimed at least 41 lives in the east of Nepal, local newspaper *The Rising Nepal* reported on Tuesday.

District public health office of Sunsari District, some 220 kilometres east of capital Kathmandu, informed that 270,000 were inoculated against the disease. Despite the public awareness campaigns, impact has not been reduced, the official said.

According to BP Koirala Health Science Academy the death rate has been increased by two fold this year.

Medical Department Chief Prahlad Karki said 20 per cent of the people who were hospitalized at the hospital died. — MNA/Xinhua

ECONOMIC NEWS

Russian, UAE leaders hold talks to boost bilateral ties

ABU DHABI, 11 Sept—Visiting Russian President Vladimir Putin held talks on Monday with his counterpart of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) to boost bilateral relations, the official *Emirates News Agency* reported.

During the meeting, UAE President Sheikh Khalifa bin Zayed Al Nahyan expressed his hope that Putin's visit would enhance consolidation of relations between the two countries on political, economic, commercial, cultural and scientific fields, the report said.

"The UAE is keen to avail more partnership, cooperation and friendship opportunities with Russia, particularly in the

economic, commercial and investment fields," Sheikh Khalifa said.

Putin said that his visit "reflects significance of relations between the two countries, which is part of our efforts to establish better relations with countries in the Gulf region."

"Russia deems the UAE as an economic, commercial and investment partner in the region," Putin added.

The two leaders also exchanged views on the latest regional and international issues, notably

the peace process in the Middle East and situation in Iraq.

After the meeting, the two sides signed a number of agreements and memorandums of understanding in the fields of crime prevention, air services, standardization and metrology, political consultations, space science for peaceful purposes and banking.

Putin is the first Russian state leader to visit the UAE since the two countries established diplomatic relations in the 1970s.—MNA/Xinhua



A visitor tries playing a set of elaborate bamboo-made bells during the 8th Bamboo Cultural Festival in Shanghai on 10 Sept, 2007. All kinds of bamboo-related works of art will show up during the festival.—INTERNET

Vietnam's automobile sales surge in first eight months

HANOI, 12 Sept—Automobile joint ventures in Vietnam posted total sales of 41,557 vehicles in

the first eight months of this year, up 80 per cent over the same period of last year, according to a local industrial association on Monday.

In August alone, the country's automobile sales stood at 6,557 units, increasing 73 per cent over last August, said the Vietnam Automobile Manufacturers Association. Last month, Toyota Vietnam kept on holding the biggest local market share, with 1,796 units sold, followed by local bus and truck maker Truong Hai with 909 vehicles. Automobile joint ventures in Vietnam, sole

producers of cars and main makers of other kinds of automobiles in the country sold 39,876 vehicles in 2006, down from 40,853 in 2005, said the association.

Last year, Vietnam with a population of about 84 million housed 13 automobile joint ventures with total registered capital of nearly 700 million US dollars and a combined annual capacity of 173,000 units. Besides, the country had dozens of local enterprises specializing in producing automobile parts and assembling simple vehicles.

MNA/Xinhua



People stand around the CS concept car of German carmaker BMW during the international car show IAA in Frankfurt on 11 Sept, 2007. The world's biggest car show will be open to the public from 13 to 23 Sept.

XINHUA

Global CEO conference opens in Singapore

SINGAPORE, 11 Sept—The world's top business leaders are gathering in Singapore for the *Forbes* global chief executive officer (CEO) conference which opened here Monday.

During the three-day meeting, the CEOs will discuss such issues as new drivers and the challenge of the global economy, the booming China and India, as well as education and aging problems.

Prime Minister of Malaysia Abdullah Ahmad Badawi will make a keynote speech on Tuesday. The Chinese millionaires, Cheung Yan, chairman of Nine Dragons Paper Limited, the largest manufacturer of packaging paperboard products in Asia, and Zhong Sheng Jian, chairman and CEO of Yanlord Land Group Limited, are also attending the meeting.

The seventh global CEO conference is the third held in Singapore. It will bring together leading CEOs with a combined net worth of 130 billion US dollars.

MNA/Xinhua

Jordan's agricultural exports to exceed \$705m this year

AMMAN, 11 Sept—Jordanian Agricultural Minister Mustafa Qrunfleh said Monday that Jordan's farm exports are expected to overpass 705.7 million US dollars during the current year.

Higher exports of vegetables and fruits are seen as a result of expansion of planted areas and the launch of projects to support Jordanian exports, he said.

Development programmes designed to support exports have played a great role in this regard, Qrunfleh added.

As part of these programmes, the ministry has trained 33 agricultural

engineers on the techniques of exporting to international markets, including packaging and other logistic arrangements.

These programmes offer direct support to Jordan's small and medium-sized enterprises which are willing to export their products to international markets.

According to Agriculture Ministry statistics, exports of main farm products dropped to 483.3 million dollars last year from 648.4 million dollars in 2005 and 614.6 million dollars in 2004.

MNA/Xinhua

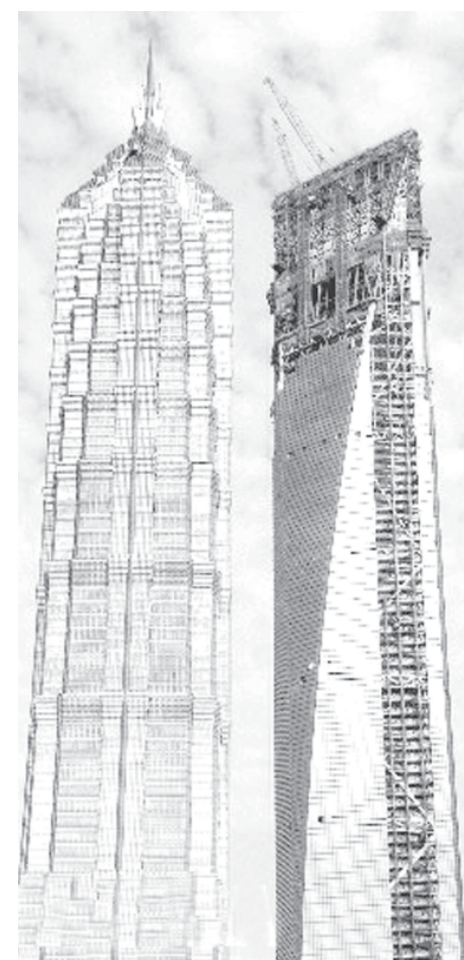


Photo taken on 10 Sept, 2007 shows Shanghai World Financial Centre (R) in Shanghai, east China. The skyscraper with 101 floors will finish capping on 14 Sept. XINHUA



Palestinian visually impaired students attend a sports class under a soft blue light, on the first week of the school year at Al-Qabas Islamic school for the visually impaired in the West Bank city of Ramallah, on 10 Sept, 2007. The Islamic school is funded by local donations, that usually increase before the Muslim holy fasting month of Ramadan, which starts this week.—INTERNET

Plane clips pillar at Indian airport before take-off

CHANDIGARH, (India), 11 Sept — The left wing of a Turkmenistan Airlines plane hit a concrete pillar while taxiing at an airport in the north Indian city of Amritsar on Monday, airport authorities said.

None of the 164 passengers and 20 crew were hurt, said Arun Talwar, the director of Raja Sansi International Airport. He said the wing of the Boeing 757, which was headed to Birmingham in Britain, was damaged when it hit the pillar, part of a new

signal tower under construction.

Airline officials said a replacement aircraft had been requested for the stranded passengers.

Many of India's airports are struggling to cope with the boom in the country's aviation sector, growing at more than 25 per cent a year. In the last few years, more foreign airlines have been flying into India, while several new Indian carriers have started operating, adding to congestion at airports.

MNA/Reuters



A model presents a creation from the Carolina Herrera Spring 2008 collection during New York Fashion Week, on 10 Sept, 2007.—INTERNET

Chinese tradition of respecting teachers called for

BEIJING, 11 Sept — Chinese State Councillor Chen Zhili called for continuing Chinese tradition of respecting teachers and education undertaking. A ceremony was held here Sunday to mark China's 23rd Teacher's Day which falls on 10 September and award nationwide model teachers and educational institutes.

Addressing the ceremony, Chen conveyed congratulations and greetings of the central government to the awarded teachers and institutes, proposing that all social circles should carry forward Chinese long history and tradition of respecting teachers and

education.

Chinese has inherited their teacher respecting tradition since the educational and ideologist ancestor Confucius (551-479 BC) who had thousands of students and followers throughout the country. Chen urged governments at all levels to pay more attention to educational affairs within their administration and improve living and working conditions of teachers and especially the incomes of teachers in rural areas. All the educational authorities and institutions should provide better environment for teachers to

participate professional training and create a fair mechanism of income distribution, she said.

MNA/Xinhua

Chinese photo exhibition opens in Vienna

VIENNA, 11 Sept — An international photo exhibition featuring the life of ordinary Chinese people opened here Monday.

More than 100 photographers from China and other countries contributed their works and the 150 photos on show were selected from a pool of thousands.

They reflected the social and economic development of China and the life, work, leisure and entertainment of ordinary

people in addition to highlighting the 5,000-year Chinese civilization and the harmony among ethnic groups in China.

Li Yanfeng, vice director general of the State Council Information Office of China, said that

with the world's focus on the 2008 Olympic Games in Beijing and Expo2010 in Shanghai, the exhibition recorded the changes that were taking place in Chinese urban and rural life.

MNA/Xinhua

Chinese warships to jointly exercise with Australia, NZ navies

QINGDAO, 11 Sept — Two Chinese warships on Monday departed from Qingdao, east China's Shandong Province, to join Australia and New Zealand navies in the first maritime exercises to be staged by the three countries.

The three navies will drill on communications, fleet formation, vessel supply, and search-and-rescue during the two-day drill on the sea off Sydney, Australia, said Major-General Zhang Xuezheng of the North China Sea Fleet of the People's Liberation Army (PLA) Navy.

Shipborne helicopters will also drill on aerocade formation and record the exercises on the sea with cameras, according

to Zhang.

The two Chinese warships are guided missile destroyer *Harbin* and fuel tanker *Hongze Lake*.

The fleet with 483 crew members will also visit Australia and New Zealand.

China has so far sent 29 fleets with nearly 10,000 crew members to visit 34 countries.

On 16 November, 1985, a fleet composed of one guided missile destroyer and one fuel tanker set sail to visit Pakistan, Sri Lanka and Bangladesh, which was the first visit by Chinese fleet to other countries after the founding of the People's Republic of China.

MNA/Xinhua

Death toll reaches over 180 by landslides, floods in Nepal

KATHMANDU, 11 Sept — The death toll caused by landslides and floods during this summer in

Nepal reached 185, local newspaper *The Kathmandu Post* reported on Tuesday.

According to Home Ministry of Nepal, the death toll was significantly higher compared with the last three years.

The ministry's statistics showed that floods and landslides claimed a total of 114 lives last year while the death toll stood at 141 and 131 in the two years before that, respectively.

Home Ministry's statistics said that altogether 69,398 families were affected by floods and landslides across Nepal so far.

Floods and landslides destroyed 18,753 households.

MNA/Xinhua



Terracotta warrior figures are displayed as part of the exhibition "The First Emperor: China's Terracotta Army" at the British Museum, London on 11 Sept, 2007.—INTERNET

Shan State (South) where 1000 flowers blossom IV: Jivitadana Sangha Hospital (Taunggyi)

Yadanasi Sayadaw (Loilem)

Jivitadana Sangha Hospital (free hospital for monks) in Taunggyi, the regional capital of southern Shan State, was commissioned into service on 12 June 2007 at a grand ceremony held at the city. Taunggyi never had such a hospital in the past. It is one of the facilities that have emerged in the region capital only in the time of Tatmadaw government.

Member of the State Peace and Development Council Lt-Gen Kyaw Win of the Ministry of Defence, Chairman of Shan State Peace and Development Council Commander of Eastern Command Maj-Gen Thaung Aye, Minister for Commerce Brig-Gen Tin Naing Thein, Minister for Religious Affairs Brig-Gen Thura Myint Maung, Deputy Minister for Health Dr Mya Oo, Deputy Commander of Eastern Command Brig-Gen Win Myint, division level officials, Patron of Shan State (South) Women's Affairs Organization Daw Thin Myo Myo Aung (the commander's wife) and members, Members of Maternal and Child Welfare Association, Red Cross, Fire Brigade, nurses, faculty members of Taunggyi Education College, members of hospital administrative board, towns elders, donors, local national races, band troupes of No 3 and No 4 basic education high schools in Taunggyi, and student dance troupes attended the ceremony.

The commander and officials formally opened the hospital. Lt-Gen Kyaw Win unveiled the signboard.

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win in his opening address at the ceremony said, "The hospital opened today is a glory for both the religious sector and the health

sector as the facility is going to provide free health care services for monks and nuns who are promoters and propagators of Buddhism."

In addition to free medical services and care, the hospital will also provide breakfast and lunch for monks and nuns. Hospitals throughout the nation have their own special wards for the members of the Sangha, but they can provide health care services to those devotees of the religious service to a certain degree only. The Jivitadana Sangha Hospital will provide comprehensive health care services for monks and nuns to a greater degree.

Lt-Gen Kyaw Win also said, "The government is implementing the regional development undertakings and further raising the living standard of the locals in cooperation with national people. I, on behalf of the government, express pride to see the opening of the Jivitadana Sangha Hospital in Taunggyi with the leadership of Shan State Peace and Development Council and participation of local wellwishers."

Commander Maj-Gen Thaung Aye in his address recounted the efforts for the emergence of the hospital, saying, "The emergence of the hospital in Taunggyi, Shan State (South), due to the generosity of donors including Kanbawza Bank and staff and families, and other wellwishers is a pleasure and morale-booster for monks and people."

As Loilem where I am living is only a three-hour drive from Taunggyi, the residents were hearing the good news about the hospital project since its initiation. The opening of the facility on 12 June this year has become the talk of the region.

There was the great general practitioner Jivaka on whom monks and people could rely during the life time of Buddha. Now, Taunggyi has the dependable Jivitadana Sangha Hospital. It is a joy for all monks and nuns.

As Myanmar doctors are Buddhists, mostly, they do not charge patients of the religious order because of their devotion to the Sasana and generosity. But due to their gentle mind, monks and nuns feel shy to visit the physician, who treated him or her without charge, another time.

Now monks and nuns do not need to be hesitant to receive medical treatment at the Jivitadana Sangha Hospital as it is a special hospital for the members of the religious order. It is sure that not only monks and nuns but also the people are thanking the government, all donors, the hospital administrative board, physicians, nurses and volunteer general staff with happiness.

Accompanied by Sayadaw Navingadhura Ashin Adiccavamsa (the monk who is sponsoring a programme to build religious buildings for 100 yogi to practise vipassana in Mongpon), I visited the hospital. Hence, I will continue to write about my interviews with monks and nuns receiving medical treatment at the hospital and doctors, efforts of donors and the body administering the functions of the hospital and the merits gained for setting up a medical trust fund.

Now, I am going to conclude my article with a passage from the address delivered by the commander, which said, "Thanks to the hospital, health care services for the members of the Sangha, who are striving for perpetuation of the Pariyatti, Patipatti and Pativedha Sasana, have been promoted. Moreover, local people will be able to find the correct path under the teachings of Buddha while serving self-interest, community interest and national interest with properly integrated secular and religious views.

Translation: TMT
(Kyemon: 12-9-2007)

Now monks and nuns do not need to be hesitant to receive medical treatment at the Jivitadana Sangha Hospital as it is a special hospital for the members of the religious order. It is sure that not only monks and nuns but also the people are thanking the government, all donors, the hospital administrative board, physicians, nurses and volunteer general staff with happiness.

German town ditches traffic lights to cut accidents

BERLIN, 12 Sept — A town council in Germany has decided the best way of improving road safety is to remove all traffic lights and stop signs downtown.

From September 12, all traffic controls will disappear from the centre of the western town of Bohmte to try to reduce accidents and make life easier for pedestrians.

In an area used by 13,500 cars every day, drivers and pedestrians will enjoy equal right of way, Klaus Goedejohann,

the town's mayor, told Reuters.

"Traffic will no longer be dominant," he said.

The idea of removing signs to improve road safety, called "Shared Space", was developed by Dutch traffic specialist Hans Monderman, and is supported by the European Union.

The EU will cover half of the 1.2 million euros (1.66 million US dollars) it will cost Bohmte to ditch its traffic lights.

Monderman's ideas have already been

implemented in the town of Drachten in the north of the Netherlands, where all stop lights, traffic signs, pavements, and street markings have gone.

"It's been very successful there," Goedejohann said, adding that accidents in Drachten had been reduced significantly.

Officials in Fuerst-enberg/Havel, a small town north of Berlin, are also considering adopting the "Shared Space" scheme.

MNA/Reuters



Indonesian office workers evacuate their building following a magnitude 7.9 earthquake in Jakarta, Indonesia on Wednesday, 12 Sept 2007. The powerful earthquake off western Indonesia triggered warnings of a potentially destructive tsunami across much of Indian Ocean region on Wednesday, meteorological agencies said.—INTERNET

Production of factories in Kyaukse Township inspected

NAY PYI TAW, 12 Sept — Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung yesterday afternoon visited Enamel and Steel Ware Factory (Minsu) of Myanma General and Maintenance Industries in Kyaukse Township.

The minister inspected moulds and dies of the machines and manufacturing of parts for physic nut oil stove.

At Pharmaceutical Factory (Inyaung) of Myanma Pharmaceutical Industries, the minister instructed officials to strive for opening of the factory on schedule and viewed production process of the factory.

In the evening, the minister inspected Footwear Factory (Kyaukse), Sewing Machine Factory



Minister for Industry-1 U Aung Thaung inspects Pharmaceutical Factory in Inyaung.
INDUSTRY-1

(Kyaukse) and Physic Nut Oil Stove Factory in Kyaukse Factories' Region.

MNA

Ministry of Religious Affairs accepts religious literature

YANGON, 12 Sept —Ambassador of Saudi Arabia to Myanmar Mr Turki Bin Naji Al Ali donated religious literature to Ministry of Religious Affairs on 7 September.

The donation ceremony was held at the minister's office (branch) on Kaba Aye Pagoda Road here and Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Thura Aung Ko accepted the donation.

Also present on the occasion were Director-General Dr Myo Myint of Department for Promotion and Propagation of the Sasana, Pro-Rector (Admin) Dr Myint Kyi of International Theravada Buddhist Missionary University, employees of the embassy and others.

MNA

CEC member meets secretary and executives of Sangyoung Township USDA



Minister Maj-Gen Thein Swe meeting with USDA members in Sangyoung Township.

TRANSPORT

YANGON, 12 Sept — CEC member of the Union Solidarity and Development Association Minister for Transport Maj-Gen Thein Swe met with Secretary U Htay Aung and executives of Sangyoung

Township USDA at the meeting hall of Transport Department (Yangon Branch), here, on 10 September.

After hearing the

reports of the secretary of the township USDA, the CEC member stressed the need to implement the objectives, directives and future programme of the

association unitedly and to carry out the community development and organizing tasks with added momentum.

MNA

CEC Member attends ceremony to present cash donation for construction of school building in Waw

YANGON, 12 Sept — CEC Member of the Union Solidarity and Development Association

Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint attended a ceremony to present cash donation for construction of Thuyethamein Village Basic Education Middle School (Branch) in Waw, Bago Division held at the hall of National Indoor Stadium-1 (Thuwunna) yesterday, made a speech on the occasion and accepted cash donations.

Present on the occasion were officials of the Ministry of Sports, Chairperson Daw Aye Aye of Central Work Committee of Myanmar

Women's Sports Federation, committee members of the school board of trustees and donors.

First, the CEC Member explained the purpose of the cash donation. Next, he accepted cash donations presented by donors and gave away certificates of honour to them.

Next, Chairman U Kyin Ti of the school board of trustees spoke words of thanks, Today's cash donations were K 25.3 million in total.

MNA

Myanmar delegation leaves for Thailand

YANGON, 12 Sept — Executive Officer U Win Latt and Manager U Thet Khaing Win of System Magic Software Solution Co Ltd, members of Myanmar International Freight Forwarder's Association, left here for Bangkok, Thailand on 10 September.

The delegation members will attend software and information technology meeting and take part in GMS economic corridor logistics booth of Thailand international logistics fair

2007 to be held in Bangkok for 12 to 16 September.

They were seen off at Yangon International

Airport by Chairman U Aung Kyaw Min of MIFFA and responsible persons.— MNA

U Win Latt and U Thet Khaing Win being seen at the airport before departure for Thailand.
UMFCCI



Traditional Cookery Course concludes

YANGON 12 Sept— The Traditional Cookery Course organized by Seikkan Township Maternal and Child Welfare Association in Yangon West District concluded at No 1 Basic Education High School Latha Township this

morning.

Chairperson of Yangon Division Maternal and Child Welfare Supervisory Committee Daw Mar Mar Wai delivered a speech and accepted 250 permanent membership applications from Seikkan

Township MCWA Chairperson Daw Thin Thin Naing.

The chairperson of Seikkan Township MCWA gave an account of work progress.

The course was designed to help housewives earn extra income.—MNA



Daw Mar Mar Wai, Chairperson of Yangon Division MCWSC, inspects performances of the trainees at Traditional Cookery Course.—

MNA

Police say US air base in Germany gets bomb threat

BERLIN, 12 Sept — A US air base in western Germany received a bomb threat on Monday evening, prompting a large operation by local police and American forces to secure the site, police said on Tuesday.

Police in the western state of Rhineland-Palatinate said the base had received a call from a

man who spoke in German with a Russian or Turkish accent and threatened to attack the air base in Spangdahlem with bombs. He had at least four accomplices.

“After the telephone threat, the American forces informed the police, who moved swiftly with US security forces to protect the air base,” the

police said in a statement.

The threat came a day before the sixth anniversary of the September 11 attacks on the United States and roughly a week after German authorities say they prevented major bomb attacks on US sites in Germany by a domestic cell of Islamist militants.—MNA/Reuters

Toxic spill at Israel's Ben-Gurion Airport, 3 hurt

JERUSALEM, 12 Sept — Firefighters and hazardous material teams went into action at Israel's Ben-Gurion International Airport on Tuesday after a toxic substance spilled while being loaded onto a plane, officials said.

Zeev Sarig, director of operations at Ben-

Gurion, outside Tel Aviv, described the substance as a fertilizer ingredient bound for the Czech Republic.

“One of the porters noticed an acrid smell and activated the appropriate (emergency) drill,” Sarig told Israel's Army Radio. “The spill was located

immediately and we took no chances.”

Army Radio said three porters were hospitalized but described their condition as satisfactory. An earlier report said around seven people had suffered injuries.

MNA/Reuters

**The best time to plant a tree was 20 years ago.
The second best time is now.**

Trust fund for Jivitadana Sangha Hospital set up



Commander Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win and wife Daw Mar Mar Wai donate K 1 million to Jivitadana Sangha Hospital.— MNA

YANGON, 12 Sept— A trust fund for medical purpose was set up for Jivitadana Sangha Hospital at a ceremony held at the hospital in Bahan Township here this afternoon.

Chairman of the Administration Board of the hospital U Maung Tin extended greetings.

Secretary of the board U Maung Maung dealt with the health care services of the hospital.

Chairman of Yangon Division Peace and Development Council Commander of Yangon Command Maj-Gen Hla Htay Win explained the purpose of the donation. The

comamnder and wife Daw Mar Mar Wai donated K 1 million to the fund through U Maung Tin.

After the ceremony, the commander asked after the members of the Sanga and nuns in bed and offered cash donations to them.

MNA

Deputy Minister meets USDA members in Kyangin, Myanaung

NAY PYI TAW, 12 Sept — CEC member of Union Solidarity and Development Association Deputy Minister for Energy Brig-Gen Than Htay met with USDA members of Kyangin at the office of township USDA in Kyangin on 8 September.

During his tour, the deputy minister paid homage to the Chairman Sayadaw of Myanaung Township Sangha Nayaka Committee and members of the Sangha and donated provisions to them.

On 9 September, the deputy minister delivered an address at the opening ceremony of annual general meeting of Myanaung Township USDA.

Next, Executive Dr Htay Win reported to the deputy minister on the related matters of the Township association.

The deputy minister donated a computer set and cash to the association and pre-sented prizes to the out-standing students, the outstanding trainees and the school that got the best

pass rate.

Afterwards, the deputy minister attended the annual general meeting of the Kyangin Township USDA and then he presented prizes to the outstanding students and the outstanding trainees. The deputy minister paid homage to the Chairman Sayadaw of Kyangin Township Sangha Nayaka Committee and members of the Sangha and donated provisions to them. —MNA



Deputy Minister Brig-Gen Than Htay donates cash to Kyangin Township USDA.— ENERGY

Appreciation of Japanese Concert

Aung Shwe Oo

I am by nature moody and contemplative. I have to force a smile when needed. In my younger days, I left my bicycle at the tea shop for I had to read a book that was to be returned urgently. To get back my bike I had to attend and appear before court. That was in my twenties. Such a forgetful young man I was.

I experienced attending at Nikko Hotel on September 8 afternoon an ensemble, the concert of Japanese Koto and Flute presented by the Japanese Foundation and The Embassy of Japan, Yangon. Repeated requests by MC of the ceremony was to stay perfectly silent, without even disturbing the players with a click of camera, flash for video. And no talks.

Though I am a talkative by nature, I don't like people talking around and near me whenever I attend a ceremony or conference. So I could establish rapport with players who concentrated

on their own interest, oblivious of the attendees. This is not my first experience. Normally, Japanese concerts used to appreciate silence, undisturbed even by the ruffle of movements.

As for me I was one with them. As acting ambassador CDA Mr Tetsuro Amano said in his opening speech, music is not only common to us Japanese and Myanmar people, it is a universal language, appreciable by any human being. Human beings could afford the capacity to appreciate even the songs of the birds.

Flute player Mr Hiroshi Matsushima, Koto players Ms Noriko Tsuboi and Ms Keiko Suzuki look much younger than their real ages. Their appearances belied the audience. Nobody would argue if they would say they are in thirties. As openness is my diplomacy I asked their age. They are 34, 48 and 40. Look at their professional maturity. Their status is both national and international.



The Japan Foundation and Japanese Embassy launch the Concert of Japanese Koto & Flute.

I have seen piano players. They would look at the audience while playing the piano. Myanmar pianists also play piano and sing at the same time Myanmar dancers also sing and dance, punctuated by exchanging of words with jesters.

Koto is likened to centuries old Myanmar traditional harp. In olden times Myanmar have had an instrument like Koto. It has the perfect appearance of a crocodile. It is possible to have a look at the instrument in the national museum.

When the trio played simultaneously, the way of give and take was so harmonious the act looked like one single wind instrument harmonica.

The players look considerably younger than their age. Though they look younger they are solemn and serene

in tune with the colour of their dress. Those who hunger a haven would find it in the concert. Thus scenario combination is judicious mixture of harmony and paradoxes.

At a time when the countries of the world, particularly Japan have been deeply engaged in the economic and commercial competition with a breakneck speed, ensembles like concert of Japanese Koto and Flute would serve a niche for rest and recreation of the world populace. Correspondents like us can escape from engaging in paparazzi by attending similar concerts. Though the crux of the ensemble is contemplative silence that reigned supreme both players and audience, the last item said to be sad melody, was livelier than all other items.

The players look considerably younger than their age. Though they look younger they are solemn and serene in tune with the colour of their dress. Those who hunger a haven would find it in the concert. Thus scenario combination is judicious mixture of harmony and paradoxes.

Pakistani Coach training Tentatively Selected Myanmar Hockey Team

YANGON, 12 Sept — To train the Tentatively Selected Myanmar Hockey Team for taking part in the XXIV SEA Games, Hockey Coach Subedar Major Muhammad Jamil Butt from Pakistan arrived here by air on 9 September.

He was welcomed at Yangon International Airport by officials of the Pakistani Embassy, U Khin Maung Latt, U Kyaw Htay Thein and Daw Swe Zin Htaik of Myanmar Hockey Federation.

On 10 September, the Pakistani Coach called on Minister for Sports Brig-Gen Thura Aye Myint at the National Indoor Stadium-1 in Thuwunna.

As of 10 September morning, the coach is providing training to the tentatively selected men's and women's teams at the hockey pitch on Theinbyu Street. He will take responsibility of

coach of the Myanmar Hockey Teams at the XXIV SEA Games to be held in Thailand in December. In addition, he will give training to Myanmar men and women hockey referees.

The Pakistani coach played for Pakistani selected hockey team from 1977 to 1989. He discharged duties as the coach for Pakistani Armed Forces Hockey Team from 1990 to 2007 and took up duties as international hockey referee. The Pakistani coach will train the Myanmar Hockey Team up to December 2007. Beginning 1 January 2008, he will discharge duty as coach of the selected hockey team of the People's Liberation Army of the People's Republic of China.

Before the XXIV SEA Games, Myanmar Hockey Federation is making arrangements for the friendly hockey



match between the Tentatively Selected Myanmar Hockey Team and the Transport Ministry Hockey Team of Sri Lanka including eight selected players.

MNA

Vice-President U Kyaw Naing of MHF, Training In-charge U Kyaw Htay Thein, two Myanmar coaches and Pakistani hockey coach Subedar Major Muhammad Jamil Butt pose for photo. — MHF

Arabs say US report offers no Iraq solution

DUBAI, 12 Sept — A long-awaited report by the top US general in Iraq offers no new ideas on ending bloodshed and suggests Washington has lost the war whether its troops stay in Iraq or go, according to analysts in the Arab world.

General David Petraeus, facing Democratic lawmakers and many voters demanding a quick end to the US engagement in Iraq, recommended cutting American troops by 30,000 in the next year but not fundamentally changing strategy in the unpopular war.

The reduction would return US troop strength to roughly the same level it was before an increase ordered by US President George W Bush from February to June.

Analysts from across the Arab world were disappointed by the reports from Petraeus and US Ambassador to Iraq Ryan Crocker, which they said seemed calculated only to shore up Bush's policy and preclude any substantial shift in ap-

proach on Iraq.

"Washington wants to bring the situation in Iraq back to square one, to the pre-surge period, which means there is no improvement. Things are not really moving forward," said Khaled al-Dakhil, a political sociology professor in Saudi Arabia.

"The situation in Iraq looks increasingly beyond rescue".

The report to Congress was seen as a crucial moment in the US debate over the war.

Both Petraeus and Crocker believe the troop surge in a war that is now in its fifth year and has killed over 3,700 US troops and tens of thousands of Iraqis is working. Critics, however, say any military success is not being matched by reconciliation

between Iraqi sects and ethnic groups.

Petraeus said the number of violent incidents had dropped and the war could eventually be won, particularly as tribal leaders in the Sunni Muslim Anbar Province, once one of the most volatile in Iraq, had turned against al-Qaeda.

Gulf Research Centre's Sulayman Awad Ibrahim said: "When a government loses credibility, not just with the occupied people but with their own people, it is very difficult to regain the confidence that they can fulfil their mission." The state-run *Thawra* newspaper said the United States was unable to recognize or correct mistakes it had made since the 2003 invasion.

MNA/Reuters

အာဟာရပြည့်လျှင် ရောဂါစင်၊ ပျော်ရွှင်ကျန်းမာ စိတ်ချမ်းသာ

အာဟာရပွဲမြိုးရေး ရက်သတ္တပတ်

(၁၅-၉-၂၀၀၇ မှ ၂၁-၉-၂၀၀၇)

မိသားစုတိုင်း အိုင်အိုင်ဒင်းဆားကို စားသုံးပါ။

၆-လမှ ၅-နှစ်အရွယ် ကလေးများကို အင်အားပြည့်စီတာမင်အေ ဆေးလုံးတိုက်ပါ။

အမျိုးသမီးများ သံဓာတ်အားဆေး မှိပ်ပါ။

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အသက် ၂-နှစ်မှ ၅-နှစ်အောက်ကလေးများနှင့် မူလတန်းအရွယ်ကလေးများအား ၆-လတစ်ကြိမ်သန်ချဆေးတိုက်ပါ။

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Rocket from Gaza wounds 35 Israeli soldiers

ZIKKIM (Israel), 12 Sept — A rocket launched by Palestinian militants in Gaza on Tuesday wounded at least 35 soldiers in an Israeli training camp for new conscripts.

The attack is likely to increase pressure on Israeli leaders to crack down on the Hamas-controlled territory.

The Popular Resistance Committees and Islamic Jihad groups jointly claimed

responsibility for the overnight strike which hit soldiers sleeping in tents at the Zikkim training base, just north of Gaza. Hamas praised the attack.

An Israeli Army spokeswoman said the rocket, one of dozens of crude missiles fired every month from the enclave, landed on an empty tent but sent fragments tearing through others.

It was the highest number of wounded in a single rocket attack launched from the Gaza

Strip, which Hamas Islamists took over during fighting against the long-dominant Fatah faction of Palestinian President Mahmoud Abbas in June.

Hamas spokesman Fawzi Barhoum said the group "blessed" the rocket attack "which brought pride to Palestine".

Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Olmert's office said he convened Cabinet colleagues and security chiefs to discuss a response.

MNA/Reuters

Malaysia declares free from bird flu

KUALA LUMPUR, 12 Sept — Malaysia on Monday was declared free from avian influenza or bird flu after the last attack in a village of Selangor State.

Agriculture and Agro-based Industry Minister Muhyiddin Yassin, in announcing this, said surveillance and laboratory tests conducted in the last three months had fulfilled the conditions set by the Office International des Epizooties (OIE) or the World Organization for Animal Health, and showed that the country was now free of the H5N1 virus.

The final report on

the matter was sent to the OIE on Sunday, he said.

"The prompt action by the Veterinary Services Department to stamp out the bird flu outbreak according to the protocol had been affective," he told reporters at his office in Putrajaya, the administrative centre of Malaysia.

The government managed to rid the disease at the end of 2005 and in

mid-2006, but on 5 June it was detected to have reemerged when 67 chickens owned by a villager suddenly died.

A total of 4,226 chickens, ducks and other birds were culled due to the outbreak, incurring 39,939 ringgit (11,411 US dollars) in compensation paid out to the livestock owners, Muhyiddin said.

The government was still undertaking preventive

measures against bird flu which was still happening in some neighbouring countries, he said.

The measures include prohibiting the import of chickens, ducks and other birds and related raw products from the affected countries, intensifying checks at the border checkpoints and continued monitoring throughout the country.

MNA/Xinhua

Over half of Cos have no "IT" recovery plan in N America

NEW YORK, 12 Sept — The potential for critical business computing sites to be impacted due to natural disasters or terrorism-related events remains high for enterprises in North America, said a survey released Monday.

Almost 60 per cent of businesses do not have a Disaster Recovery Plan (DRP) in place to resume IT services in case of crisis, the survey conducted by Info-Tech Research Group revealed.

"Enterprises are still unequipped to deal with

disaster and need to address that gap as a high priority," said Ross Armstrong, senior research analyst at Info-Tech Research Group. "Recovering from a disaster will be extremely difficult for businesses where IT departments have not

taken steps to support critical hardware and software."

The Info-Tech survey revealing the DRP shortfall conducted earlier this year included 1,136 IT personnel in companies throughout the United States and Canada.

MNA/Xinhua

Actress Singer Lindsey Lohan photographed at Premier Radio in New York in this 5 Dec, 2005 file photo. A judge on Tuesday, 11 Sept, 2007, refused to dismiss portions of a lawsuit against Lohan over an October 2005 accident in which her Mercedes-Benz collided with a van.

INTERNET



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MV KOTA TABAH VOY NO (181)

Consignees of cargo carried on MV KOTA TABAH VOY NO (181) are hereby notified that the vessel will be arriving on 13.9.2007 and cargo will be discharged into the premises of A.W.P.T where it will lie at the consignee's risk and expenses and subject to the byelaws and conditions of the Port of Yangon.

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No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

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MV BANG PAKAEW VOY NO (154)

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Damaged cargo will be surveyed daily from 8 am to 11:20 am and 12 noon to 4 pm up to Claims Day now declared as the third day after final discharge of cargo from the vessel.

No claims against this vessel will be admitted after the Claims Day.

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P. O. Box 60, Yangon
Dated: 13 September 2007

Singapore, Indonesia ink MoU on information, communication

SINGAPORE, 11 Sept—Singapore and Indonesia on Monday signed an agreement to create more exchanges and collaborations in information and communication.

The new Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) replaced the one on Broadcasting and Communication signed in 1989. The old MoU covered areas such as radio, television and films, government information service, and Press and publications.

The scope will be expanded under the new MoU to include co-operation in the fields of information and communication technology (ICT) and postal service.

This will enable Singapore agencies, such as the Media Development Authority and Infocomm

Development Authority to build closer relations with their Indonesian counterparts. The MoU will also facilitate and promote media collaborations such as co-production, marketing and distribution of audio visual and digital media content. In broadcasting, the respective broadcasters could explore co-production, exchanges and sale of media content.

Furthermore, the two countries will work together on developing e-Government, e-Commerce, e-Business and ICT infrastructures.

MNA/Xinhua

သစ်တောသစ်ပင်
ချစ်ခင်တဲ့လူမျိုး၊
သစ်ပင်ကို နှစ်စဉ်စိုက်
ရွှေတိုက်ကိုစိုင်း။

Australia donates wheat to Bangladeshi poor people

DHAKA, 11 Sept—Australia has donated 38,550 tons of wheat, worth about 782 million taka (about 11.2 million US dollars) to Bangladesh in support of food-based programme for ultra poor people, the private news agency UNB reported Monday.

Joint Secretary of Ministry of the Food and Disaster Management Shafiqul Islam received the Australian donation at a handing over ceremony

at the southeastern Chittagong Port Sunday, which was attended by Australian High Commissioner in Dhaka Douglas Foscett. "This contribution is a continuation of Australia's long standing support to Bangladesh for improving food security of ultra poor people and nutrition of primary school children," said Foscett at the ceremony.

Jordan gets \$335,000 grant for water resources development

AMMAN, 11 Sept—The Jordanian and US governments on Sunday signed a 335,000-US-dollar grant to help Jordan develop its water resources. The grant agreement, signed by American Ambassador to Jordan David Hale and Jordanian Minister of Planning and International Cooperation Suheir Al Ali, will fund a feasibility study for the Zarqa River Basin.

According to the agreement, the study will be conducted to make a strategic examination of the existing wastewater treatment system in the Zarqa River Basin, as well as a thorough demand analysis and assessment of the treatment needs posed by increased infrastructure development in the area.

MNA/Xinhua

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- Hotels, Supermarkets and Shopping Malls in Yangon.

Seven US soldiers killed in vehicle accident in Baghdad

BAGHDAD, 11 Sept—A vehicle accident killed seven US soldiers and injured 11 others in western Baghdad on Monday, said the US military.

The accident also left two detainees dead and a third injured in Baghdad, the military said in a statement.

The three suspects were detained previously and being transported when the accident took place, said the statement.

The cause of the accident was under investigation, the military said.— MNA/Xinhua



A saleswoman displays a 26.62 carat diamond at a shopping centre in Nanning, south China's Guangxi province.—INTERNET

ပညာရေးနှင့် ခေတ်မီဖွံ့ဖြိုးတိုးတက်သော နိုင်ငံတော်ကြီး တည်ဆောက်အံ့



Workers pile palm oil fruit into a truck before sending them to a factory at the palm oil plantation in Serdang Bedagai, North Sumatra Province recently. Southeast Asian nations are gearing up for a palm oil boom as interest in biofuels soars, but activists warn the crop may not satisfy a global thirst for energy that is both clean and green.—INTERNET

New science prize launched at British science festival

YORK (Britain), 11 Sept— The Kavli Prize in astrophysics, nanoscience and neuroscience was launched here Monday, the first day of the British Festival of Science.

The Kavli Prize will be awarded in three disciplines: astrophysics, nanoscience and neuroscience.

The Kavli Foundation will award each of the three winners one million US dollars, putting the Kavli Prize at the Nobel Prize level.

The Kavli Prize was launched at a Press conference attended by Jan Fridthjof Bernt, president of the Norwegian Academy of Science

and Letters, Fred Kavli, founder and chairman of the Kavli Foundation and Martin Rees, President of the Royal Society, UK.

The three prizes were established to recognize outstanding scientific research, honour highly creative scientists, promote public understanding of scientists and their work as well as foster international cooperation among scientists in the above-

mentioned fields.

The Kavli Prize will be awarded by the Norwegian Academy of Science and Letters, in cooperation with the Kavli Foundation and the Norwegian Ministry of Education and Research, at a ceremony in Oslo, Norway, every two years, beginning in 2008.

The first Kavli Prize will be awarded in Oslo in September 2008

.MNA/Xinhua

Does smoking make pregnant women depressed?

BEIJING, 11 Sept—More than one in 10 pregnant women smoke and many of them may also suffer from depression, which makes kicking the habit even more difficult, new research suggests.

The new evidence suggests that decades-old “quit for your baby” messages are too simplistic an approach for many women — and that perhaps prenatal checkups should include screening pregnant smokers for mental health disorders that require care.

“These ladies all know, I promise you, about the health risks. That’s not what it is,” says Dr Jan Blalock of the University of Texas M.D Anderson Cancer Centre, which has begun a first-of-a-kind study, Project Baby Steps,

to test whether non-drug depression therapy helps pregnant smokers quit.

“We should at least understand more about why these ladies don’t quit. We should be

looking more carefully instead of just saying, ‘Whoop, got this group of hard-core smokers.’”

Certainly learning how dangerous smoking is to their developing baby can

urge women to try to quit. It increases the risk of miscarriage, premature birth, low birthweight, death from SIDS, and learning and behaviour disorders. —Internet



A squirrel in the wild. Slovakia’s biggest airport on Tuesday began relocating ground squirrels near the complex as they were endangering flights by attracting large birds.—INTERNET

NASA robotic rover Opportunity enters Martian crater

BEIJING, 12 Sept— NASA’s robotic rover Opportunity began a risky drive into the Victoria Crater Tuesday as scientists believed the rocks in the crater represent the ancient surface of Mars and studying them could shed clues on the planet’s early climate.

Opportunity’s first task will be to “toe dip” into the crater, a move that involves rolling its six wheels below the rim and immediately back out to gauge its footing. Over the next few days, engineers will check Opportunity’s instruments and command it to scale down the crater.

“We expect to have good driving,” said John Callas, the rover project manager at NASA’s Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena.

The long-awaited descent into the crater — measuring a nearly a kilometre across and about 70 to 80 metres

deep — had been on hold since July when a series of sun-blotting dust storms raged in the southern hemisphere. At the height of the storm, Opportunity and its twin, Spirit, went into sleep mode to conserve energy. Spirit is exploring another area far from Opportunity.

Opportunity reached the lip of the crater last month and scouted for possible entry points. The route scientists eventually chose calls for a straight drive down at a 15-degree incline toward the exposed layer of bright rocks. —Internet

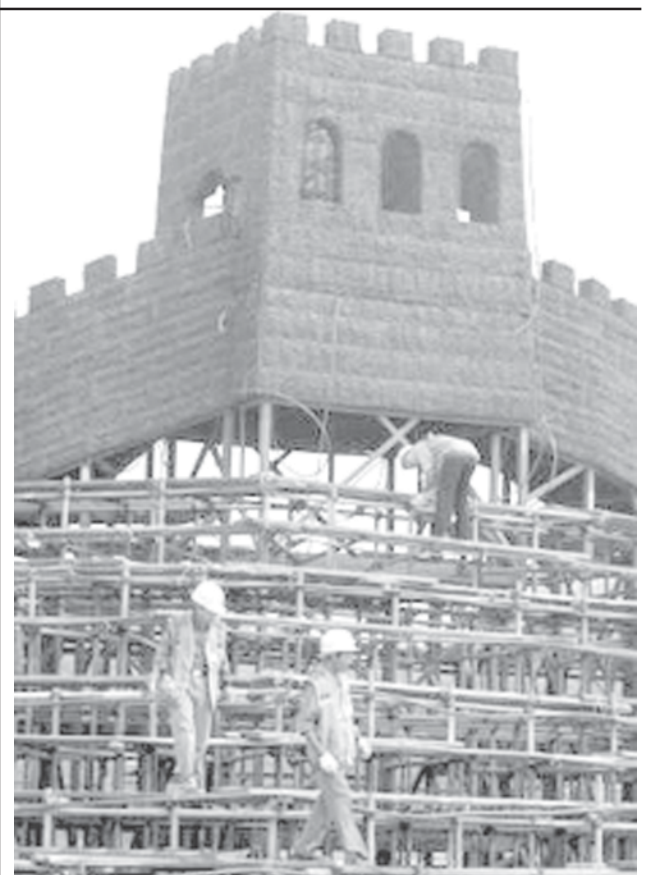
Two die as crash in Italian tunnel causes panic

ROME, 11 Sept— Two people were killed and around 150 taken to hospital for smoke intoxication after a car crashed in a mountain tunnel in northern Italy on Monday, local police said.

The driver was burned to death when his car veered into the guard rail and caught fire in the San Martino tunnel near Lecco, in the foothills of the Alps.

Another motorist died of suffocation and hundreds more left their cars and fled for the exits as smoke filled the tunnel. Most of those examined in hospital suffered minor smoke intoxication, but eight were held for further treatment.

MNA/Reuters



Workers install a replica of the Great Wall of China at Tiananmen Square in Beijing on 11 Sept, 2007, in preparation for National Day celebrations. China celebrates its National Day on 1 October. —INTERNET

SPORTS

Vieira tells Inter to back off over Scotland game

PARIS, 12 Sept — Patrick Vieira has told Inter Milan to back off after the Italian club said they hoped France would not field their midfielder in Wednesday's Euro 2008 Group B qualifier against Scotland in Paris.

Inter Director of Sport Marco Branca told *L'Equipe's* website (www.lequipe.fr) on Tuesday that he believed Vieira was at risk because he has just recovered from a hamstring injury.

The Serie A champions had also expressed concern about Vieira's fitness before Saturday's 0-0 draw with Italy in Milan, which the France captain played from start to finish.

"I have never chosen between club and country. If I'm all right I play for one and for the other," the 31-year-old midfielder told a news conference later on Tuesday.

"If Inter prefer to speak via newspapers instead of telling me what they think, it is their problem. I don't usually talk about this sort of thing in the newspapers. I'm disappointed." — *MNA/Reuters*



Tunisia's Mellouli loses world title after suspension

LONDON, 12 Sept — Tunisia's Oussama Mellouli has been stripped of the world title he won this year after being banned for a positive dope test by sport's top court, swimming's world governing body FINA said on Tuesday.

The Court of Arbitration for Sport (CAS) in Lausanne has annulled all Mellouli's results and suspended him for 18 months, dating back to November 30 last year when the offence was committed.

"...All the results obtained by the swimmer since that date are cancelled. This includes the medals, times and prizes

achieved at the 12th world championships in Melbourne," Lausanne-based FINA said in a statement.

Mellouli, who tested positive for amphetamines at a meet in Indiana, won the 800-metre freestyle and took the silver medal in the 400 freestyle at the worlds in March this year. He was the first Tunisian to win a world long-course swimming title.

FINA appealed to CAS to impose a two-year ban, saying the Tunisian federation was too lenient in sanctioning Mellouli with just a reprimand and a warning.

MNA/Reuters



Brazil's Kaka (L), Elano (C) and Robinho joke around during practice with the Brazilian national soccer team in Foxborough, Massachusetts, on 11 Sept, 2007. Brazil will play an international friendly match against Mexico on 13 September.

INTERNET

Messi inspires Argentina to win over Australia

MELBOURNE, 12 Sept — A second-half header from Martin Demichelis gave Argentina a 1-0 victory in an entertaining friendly against Australia on Tuesday.

After both sides had clattered the woodwork at the Melbourne Cricket Ground, the Bayern Munich defender got the faintest of glances on the inspirational Lionel Messi's inswinging freekick on 49 minutes to claim the spoils. Messi had struck the post for the South Americans in the first half and was a constant danger to the home defence.

"He was fabulous," Argentina coach Alfio Basile told reporters. "He brings a lot of fantasy into the game like Ronaldinho.

"He is always doing the unex-

pected and it is something that is unique. He's obviously an immense talent."

With Basile fielding a strong starting line-up and Australia without most of their Premier League contingent, it was the hosts who surprised with the best early chance. Mark Bresciano's angled drive beat goalkeeper Roberto Abbondanzieri on seven minutes but was stopped on the line by Demichelis.

Carlos Tevez just failed to get a toe on a cross from Jonas Gutierrez, before the Manchester United forward provided Gabriel Heinze with a chance at the far post only for the left-back to balloon the ball into the stands.

MNA/Reuters



Nigeria's Faith Ikidi (R) tackles Sweden's Therese Sjorgan (L) during the group match in the 2007 FIFA Women's World Cup at the Chengdu Sports Centre Stadium on 11 Sept, 2007. INTERNET

Japan's defender Nayuha Toyoda, right, and defender Kyoko Yano, left, fight for the ball during a training session for the 2007 FIFA Women's World Cup soccer tournament on 12 Sept, 2007, in Shanghai, China. Japan is part of Group A which includes Germany, Argentina and England.—INTERNET

Austria extend winless run to eight after Chile defeat

KLAGENFURT (Austria), 12 Sept — Euro 2008 co-hosts Austria extended their miserable run of form with a 2-0 friendly defeat at home to Chile on Tuesday.

The match in Vienna, part of a four-nation tournament involving fellow Euro 2008 co-hosts Switzerland and Japan, was Austria's eighth without a win and leaves them still chasing their first victory of 2007.

"We played far better than we did against Japan, but we still lost," under-fire coach Josef Hickersberger told Austrian television.

"Of course I scrutinize myself. I do that all the time. But I am convinced that I can help the team. If you can name a better and more successful coach than me in Austria, then name him and then we can talk."

After a promising opening spell, Austria came under increasing pressure from their South American opponents and were fortunate to still be level at halftime.

Chile's breakthrough came in the 66th minute when Hugo Droguett slid in at the far post to poke home an Alexis Sanchez pass.

Eduardo Rubio lobbed keeper Juergen Macho with six minutes remaining to condemn Austria to last place in the mini-tournament.

Japan came away as tournament winners after an entertaining 4-3 win over the Swiss in Klagenfurt.

MNA/Reuters



Ivan Ljubicic of Croatia returns the ball to Japan's Kei Nishikori during a men's singles first round match at the 2007 China Open tennis tournament in Beijing, on 11 Sept, 2007. Ljubicic won 2-0.

INTERNET

Strong earthquake hits Indonesia

JAKARTA, 12 Sept — A powerful earthquake struck near Indonesia's Sumatra island on Wednesday, the United States Geological Survey (USGS) said, and the shock was felt across South-East Asia.

The undersea earthquake, which hit at 11.10 am GMT, struck in the sea about 100km southwest of the city of Bengkulu, at a depth of roughly 15km, the USGS said.

The USGS initially said on its website there was a quake measuring 8.0, and a short time later said there was a quake measuring 7.9 at a slightly different location, leading to initial confusion about the number of quakes.

A tsunami warning was issued, an Indonesian meteorological agency official said.

The Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services issued a tsunami alert on Wednesday for the Andaman and Nicobar Islands but said no alert had been issued for the mainland yet. Malaysian authorities issued a warning to coastal residents to stay away from beaches and Sri Lanka also issued a tsunami warning.

Bengkulu province in Sumatra bore the brunt of the shaking, CNN reported.

Several buildings in

Padang, the provincial capital of Indonesia's West Sumatra, collapsed, Global TV reported.

Some offices in Jakarta were evacuated. Witnesses in Singapore and Thailand said they also felt the tremors.

"After praying I felt the earthquake. I panicked,

threw away my shoes and ran through the emergency exit," said Widyastuti, a 23-year-old IT worker in Jakarta who was in one of Bank Indonesia's offices in central Jakarta.

Indonesia, located the Pacific Basin's "Ring of Fire"—an arc of volcanoes and fault lines—is prone to

earthquakes. In December 2004, a massive quake off Sumatra triggered a tsunami that killed more than 230,000 people in multiple countries, including 160,000 people in the Indonesian province of Aceh.

Internet

Flood Possibility Warning (Issued at 12:30 hr MST on 12-9-2007)

According to the (06:30) hr MST observation today, the water levels of Ayeyawady River at Katha and NyaungU are (999) cm and (2080) cm respectively. The water levels are possible to reach their danger levels of Katha (1040) cm and NyaungU (2120) cm during the next (48) hrs commencing noon today.

Flood Bulletin (Issued at 12:30 hr MST on 12-9-2007)

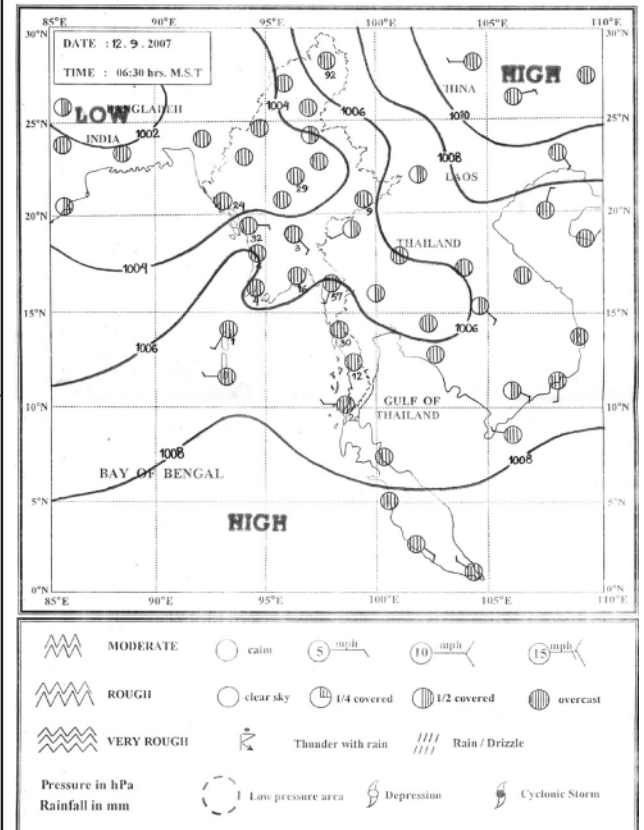
According to the (06:30) hr MST observation today, the water level of Chindwin River at Hkamti (1370) cm is exceeded (10) cm above its danger level. It may fall below its danger level (1360) cm during the next (48) hrs commencing noon today.

According to the (06:30) hr MST observations today, the water levels of Chindwin River at Homalin (2954) cm and Monywa (1038) cm are exceeded (54) cm at Homalin and (38) cm at Monywa above their respective danger levels. The water levels may remain above their danger levels of Homalin (2900) cm and Monywa (1000) cm during the next (48) hrs commencing noon today.

According to the (06:30) hr MST observations today, the water levels of Chindwin River at Mawlaik (1366) cm and Kalewa (1650) cm are exceeded (136) cm at Mawlaik and (1000) cm at Kalewa above their respective danger levels. The water levels may remain above their danger levels of Mawlaik (1230) cm and Kalewa (1550) cm during the next (72) hrs commencing noon today.

According to the (06:30) hr MST observation today, the water level of Thanlwin River at Hpa-an (782) cm is exceeded (32) cm above its danger level. It may remain above its danger level (750) cm during the next (48) hrs commencing noon today.

Weather Map of Myanmar and Neighbouring Areas



WEATHER

Wednesday, 12 September, 2007

Summary of observations recorded at 09:30 hours

MST: During the past 24 hours, weather has been partly cloudy in Magway Division, rain or thundershowers have been isolated in Chin and Kayah States and Sagaing Division, scattered in Shan State and Bago Division, fairly widespread in Kachin State and Mandalay Division and widespread in the remaining areas with locally heavyfall in Kachin State, isolated heavyfalls in Rakhine, Mon States and Bago Division. The noteworthy amounts of rainfall recorded were Nay Pyi Taw (0.24) inch, Machanbaw (5.75) inches, Putao (3.89) inches, Kyaukpau (3.47) inches, Toungoo (Aviation Met) (3.46) inches, Thaton (3.35) inches, Mawlamyine (2.40) inches, and Mandalay (1.14) inches.

Maximum temperature on 11-9-2007 was 86°F. Minimum temperature on 12-9-2007 was 73°F. Relative humidity at 09:30 hours MST on 12-9-2007 was 96%. Total sunshine hours on 11-9-2007 was (0.6) hour approx.

Rainfall on 12-9-2007 was (0.71) inch at Mingaladon, (0.63) inch at Kaba-Aye and (0.20) inch at Central Yangon. Total rainfall since 1-1-2007 was (106.02) inches at Mingaladon, (108.74) inches at Kaba-Aye and (110.16) inches at Central Yangon. Maximum wind speed at Yangon (Kaba-Aye) was (8) mph from Southwest at (16:20) hours MST on 11-9-2007.

Bay inference: Monsoon is weak to moderate in the Andaman Sea and the Bay of Bengal.

Forecast valid until evening of 13-9-2007: Rain or thundershowers will be isolated in lower Sagaing Division, scattered in Chin and Kayah States, Mandalay, Magway, upper Sagaing and Bago Divisions, fairly widespread in Kachin, Shan States and Taninthayi Division and widespread in the remaining States and Divisions. Degree of certainty is (80%).

State of the sea: Seas will be moderate in Myanmar waters.

Outlook for subsequent two days: Likelihood of withdrawal of Southwest monsoon from the northern Myanmar areas.

Forecast for Nay Pyi Taw and neighbouring areas for 13-9-2007: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Yangon and neighbouring areas for 13-9-2007: One or two rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).

Forecast for Mandalay and neighbouring areas for 13-9-2007: Isolated rain or thundershowers. Degree of certainty is (80%).



Thursday, 13 September
View on today

7:00 am

1. ကျေးဇူးရှင် မင်းကွန်း ဆရာတော်ဘုရားကြီး၊ နိုင်ငံတော်သံဃာ မဟာနာယက အဖွဲ့အကျိုးတော်ဆောင်ချုပ်၊ အဘိဓမ္မမဟာရဋ္ဌာရ၊ အဘိဓမ္မ အဂ္ဂမဟာသဒ္ဓမ္မဇောတိက၊ တိပိဋကဓရ၊ ဓမ္မဘဏ္ဍာဂါရိက၊ ဆရာတော် ဘဒ္ဒန္တ ဦးပိစိတ္တသာရာဘိဝံသ၏ ပရိတ်တရားတော်

7:25 am

2. To be healthy exercise

7:30 am

3. Morning news

7:40 am

4. Nice and sweet song

7:50 am

5. Dance of national races

8:05 am

6. အဆိုပြိုင်ပွဲ

8:15 am

7. Dance variety

8:30 am

8. International news

8:45 am

9. Let's Go

3:20 pm

1. ၂၀၀၇ခုနှစ်အာဆီယံချန်ပီယံရှစ် အမျိုးသမီးဘောလုံးပြိုင်ပွဲ တိုက်ရိုက်ထုတ်လွှင့်မှုအစီအစဉ် (ပထမအကြိမ်လွှင့်လေ့) (ဗီယက်နမ်နှင့်ထိုင်း)

5:15 pm

2. Songs to uphold National Spirit

5:30 pm

3. ၂၀၀၇ခုနှစ်(၁၅) ကြိမ်မြောက် မြန်မာရိုးရာယဉ်ကျေးမှု အဆိုအက၊အရေးအတီး

မြိုင်ပွဲဝင်များ လေ့လာနိုင်ကြရန်(မဟာဂီတ) (ဝါသနာရှင်(ဒုတိယတန်း) အဆင့်)(အမျိုးသား/အမျိုးသမီး)

5:45 pm

4. ဆောင်းပါးရှင်မောင်ဒဲဒဲ၏ “ဆန္ဒပြရာမလုပ်ပါ၊ ဆန္ဒပြရန်မှတစ်ပါး အခြားမရှိပြီ”

6:00 pm

5. Evening news

6:20 pm

6. ၂၀၀၇ခုနှစ်အာဆီယံချန်ပီယံရှစ် အမျိုးသမီးဘောလုံးပြိုင်ပွဲ တိုက်ရိုက်ထုတ်လွှင့်မှုအစီအစဉ် (ပထမအကြိမ်လွှင့်လေ့) (မြန်မာနှင့်မလေးရှား)

8:00 pm

7. News

8. International news

9. Weather report

10. နိုင်ငံခြားဇာတ်လမ်းတွဲ “ချစ်စိတ်ကူးလေးတစ်လည်လည်” (အပိုင်း-၁၅)

11. The next day's programme

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Commander, CEC member meet USDA members in Lashio

NAY PYI TAW, 12 Sept — Patron of Shan State (North) Union Solidarity and Development Association Chairman of Shan State (North) Peace and Development Council Commander of North-East Command Maj-Gen Aung Than Htut and USDA CEC member Minister for Electric Power No 2 Maj-Gen Khin Maung Myint on 9 September met executives of Shan State (North) USDA, secretaries of four districts and 19 townships and chairmen of District and Township PDCs at the hall of USDA Office in Lashio.

The commander delivered an address.

Speaking on the occasion, the CEC member Minister, who is also in-charge of Shan State (North) USDA, said that members of the USDA have been taking part in their respective sectors for ensuring peace and stability and development of the region with patriotic spirit and firm belief during 14-year period since the association had been established. The CEC member added that the people are to be held in esteem by the association members in the respective regions, and

he urged the association members to provide necessary assistance for development of economic and social sectors of the local people in line with five rural development tasks.

In the evening, the commander and the minister paid homage to Maha Muni Lacquerware Buddha Image at Thiri Mingala Manhsu Shan Monastery in Lashio. Next, they donated flowers, lights, water and gold foils to the Buddha Image and Waso robes and alms to Sayadaw Bhaddanta Puñananda. — MNA

Commander, CEC Member discuss development affairs in Mon State

YANGON, 12 Sept — Chairman of Mon State Peace and Development Council Commander of South-East Command Maj-Gen Thet Naing Win and CEC Member of the Union Solidarity and Development Association Minister for Mines Brig-Gen Ohn Myint together with departmental officials discussed development affairs at the office of Myanma Salt and Marine Chemicals Enterprise of Mon State in Mawlamyine on 8 September.

At Mon State USDA Office, Patron of Mon State USDA Commander Maj-Gen Thet Naing Win and CEC Member Brig-Gen Ohn Myint held a meeting with secretaries and executives at the levels of state, district and township USDAs to discuss active participation in organizing matters, regional development and

public welfare tasks.

While attending Mudon Township USDA Annual General Meeting for 2007 at the office of the township association, the CEC Member made a speech and then he and departmental officials presented prizes to distinction winners who had passed the 2007 matriculation examination.

Next, the CEC Member accepted cash donations presented by township departmental officials. Afterwards, he paid homage to Pyinnyawun Monastery Presiding Sayadaw Bhaddanta Ñānissarabhivamsa, offered alms to the Sayadaw and inspected a newly-built ordination hall.

After that he inspected the chosen site to build Yetaung Parahita Primary Monastic Education School, attended to the needs of the construction and offered alms to

Sayadaw Bhaddanta Paññavara.

After paying homage to Mudon Kangyi Pagoda, the CEC member gave instructions on all-round renovation of the pagoda and greening tasks for its environs. At Mudon Home for the Aged, the CEC member provided necessary assistance for the aged.

At the offices of Paung and Thaton Township USDAs, they met with secretaries, executives and organizers on 10 September. And secretaries and executives briefed him on accomplishment of the tasks of the associations. After hearing the reports, the CEC Member gave instructions on regional development tasks to be carried out harmoniously and efforts to be made for enabling the local youth to make progress in education.

MNA

Patients with eye complaints receive free medical treatment, minor surgeries

NAY PYI TAW, 12 Sept — Organized by Trachoma and Avoidable Blindness Control Project with the sponsorship of World Health Organization, an eye specialists team provided free medical treatment to patients with eye complaints in Mahlaing, Meiktila District, from 7 to 10 September.

Eye Specialist Dr U

Tun Aung Kyaw, Professor Dr Daw Myint Khaing, Deputy Director Dr Khin Nyein Lin of the project, Dr Win Ko Shein of the district, eye specialists from Kyaukpadaung, Myingyan and Nay Pyi Taw Pyinmana, and Meiktila People's Hospital and 300-bed Hospital in Nay Pyi Taw gave free medical treatment to the patients. Meiktila District

Union Solidarity and Development Association, Jivitadana Eye Treatment Providing Committee of Mahlaing Township Association and wellwishers provided necessary assistance to the patients.

A total of 2,354 patients with eye complaints received free medical treatment and minor surgeries.

MNA



Eye specialists providing medical treatment to patients with eye complaints in Mahlaing. — MNA

Earthquake report

(Issued at 19.00 hr MST) on 12-9-2007

A severe earthquake of intensity 7.9 Richter Scale with its epicentre outside Myanmar (South of Sumatra, Indonesia) about 1500 miles south of Kaba Aye Seismological Observatory was recorded at 17 hrs 45 min 16 sec MST on 12th September 2007.

Tsunami Alert

(Issued at 19.00 hr MST) on 12-9-2007

A severe earthquake of intensity 7.9 Richter Scale with its epicentre outside Myanmar (South of Sumatra, Indonesia) about 1500 miles south of Kaba Aye Seismological Observatory was recorded at 17 hrs 45 min 16 sec MST on 12th September 2007. According to the earthquake, Japan Meteorological Agency issued Tsunami watch information as Tsunami waves will reach to Myanmar coastal areas between (20.45) hrs to (23.45) hrs MST today.

Semifinal matches of AFF Women's Championship to be telecast live

YANGON, 12 Sept — The first semifinal match between Vietnam and Thailand and the second semifinal match between Myanmar and Malaysia in the AFF Women's Championship will be telecast live at 3.20 pm and 6.20 pm respectively by both Radio Myanmar and MRTV Thursday. — NLM